

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES  
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

1. (Currently amended) A hydraulic device for back and forth movement as well as locking of a machine part, in particular for opening, closing and clamping half-molds of an injection molding tool of an injection molding machine, comprising:

a cylinder having a first pressure space with a pressure medium;  
a primary piston which includes at least one piston rod and is constructed to float in the pressure medium in the first pressure space; and  
a secondary piston axially movable in the cylinder and sized to bound the first pressure space on one side thereof in any axial disposition thereof, said secondary piston having a recess in which the piston rod of the primary piston is movable, said primary and secondary pistons having opposing sides to define confronting contact surfaces which can be brought to impact contact one another when the half-molds are clamped.
2. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 1, wherein the opposing sides of the primary and secondary pistons are so configured as to form a second pressure space, when the contact surfaces between the primary piston and secondary piston touch one another, and further comprising a passageway which feeds into the second pressure space and is provided for decompressing the pressure medium trapped in the second pressure space.
3. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 2, and further comprising means for generating a negative pressure in the second pressure space.

4. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 1, wherein the contact surface of the primary piston and the contact surface of the secondary piston are conical.
5. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 1, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a third pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston.
6. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 1, wherein the cylinder has a first section with a first inner diameter and a second section with a second inner diameter, wherein a region passed by the secondary piston during its movement is located within the second section, and wherein only the second section has a surface to satisfy hydraulic requirements.
7. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 5, wherein the second section of the secondary piston partly projects beyond the cylinder.
8. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 1, wherein the piston rod of the primary piston has a first section which slides in the recess, said piston rod further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a smaller diameter than the first section so that a fourth pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the second section of the piston rod and the secondary piston, wherein the second section is guided through a bore on a tool-side end of the recess of the secondary piston.

9. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 1, wherein the cylinder has an end which faces a moving platen of a three-platen clamping unit of an injection molding machine and has an end piece which is configured as support platen of the three-platen clamping unit, said piston rod being securable to the moving platen.
10. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 1, wherein the primary piston has a side which is distal to the secondary piston and has a further piston rod defined by a diameter which is smaller than a diameter of the first piston rod, said further piston rod projecting beyond the cylinder.
11. (Previously presented) The hydraulic device of claim 10, wherein the cylinder has an end which faces an injection molding tool and has an end piece which is configured as a platen of a two-platen clamping unit of an injection molding machine, said further piston rod being securable to another platen of the two-platen clamping unit.
12. (Currently amended) A clamping unit for an injection molding machine, comprising:
  - a support platen;
  - a fixed platen;
  - a moving platen; and
  - a hydraulic device for operating the moving platen, said hydraulic device including a cylinder having a first pressure space with a pressure medium, a primary piston which includes at least one piston rod and is constructed to float in the pressure medium in the first pressure space, and a secondary piston axially movable in the cylinder and sized to bound the first pressure space on one side thereof in any axial disposition thereof, said secondary piston having a recess in which the piston rod of the primary piston is movable, said primary and secondary pistons having opposing sides to define

confronting contact surfaces which can be brought to impact contact one another when the fixed and moving platens are clamped.

13. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 12, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, wherein the cylinder is secured to the support platen, or an end piece of the cylinder is configured as support platen, wherein the support platen has bores for passage of the secondary piston, wherein the piston rod is mounted to the moving platen, and wherein the further pressure space can be hydraulically blocked during closing and opening movements of an injection molding tool of the injection molding machine.
14. (Currently amended) The clamping unit of claim 12, wherein the cylinder is secured to the support platen, or an end piece of the cylinder is configured as support platen, wherein the support platen has bores for passage of the secondary piston, wherein the piston rod is mounted to the moving platen [[(16)]], and further comprising at least one auxiliary cylinder provided on the support platen or the fixed platen and having a piston rod mounted to the moving platen.
15. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 14, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner

diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, said first pressure space being hydraulically blockable for the closing movement of an injection molding tool of the injection molding machine, and said further pressure space being connectable to a pressure medium source while the auxiliary cylinder is idle.

16. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 14, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, said first pressure space being hydraulically blockable for a closing movement of an injection molding tool of the injection molding machine, and wherein the auxiliary cylinder as well as the further pressure space are connectable to a pressure medium source.
17. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 14, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, wherein the auxiliary cylinder has first and second auxiliary pressure spaces and is provided on the support platen, wherein the first pressure space is hydraulically blockable for an opening movement of an injection molding tool of the injection molding machine, wherein the further pressure space as well

as the first auxiliary pressure space in the auxiliary cylinder are hydraulically relieved, and the second auxiliary pressure space in the auxiliary cylinder is connectable to a pressure medium source.

18. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 14, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, wherein the auxiliary cylinder has first and second auxiliary pressure spaces and is provided on the fixed platen, wherein the first pressure space is hydraulically blockable for an opening movement of an injection molding tool of the injection molding machine, wherein the further pressure space as well as the first auxiliary pressure space in the auxiliary cylinder are hydraulically relieved, and the first auxiliary pressure space in the auxiliary cylinder is connectable to a pressure medium source.
19. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 28, wherein the cylinder is mounted to the fixed platen, or an end piece of the cylinder is configured as fixed platen, wherein the second piston rod is guided through the fixed platen and attached to the moving platen.
20. (Currently amended) The clamping unit of claim 28, wherein the cylinder [[(1)]] is mounted to the moving platen [[(44)]] or an end piece of the cylinder [[(1)]] is configured as moving platen [[(44)]], and wherein the second piston rod [[(46)]] is guided through the moving platen and attached to the fixed platen.

21. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 28, wherein the recess in the secondary piston is cylindrical and has an end which is distal to the primary piston and closed by an end piece so that a pressure space is formed in the secondary piston.
22. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 21, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, wherein the further pressure space is hydraulically blockable during closing and opening movements of an injection molding tool of the injection molding machine.
23. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 21, wherein the pressure space in the secondary piston is decompressible during a closing movement of an injection molding tool and connectable to a pressure medium source for an opening movement of an injection molding tool.
24. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 28, wherein the recess in the secondary piston is cylindrical and has an end which is distal to the primary piston and open, and further comprising at least one auxiliary cylinder provided on the fixed platen or the moving platen.
25. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 24, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation

of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, wherein the first pressure space is hydraulically blockable for a closing movement of an injection molding tool, said further pressure space connectable to a pressure medium source while the auxiliary is idle.

26. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 24, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, wherein the first pressure space is hydraulically blockable for a closing movement of an injection molding tool, said auxiliary and said further pressure space connectable to a pressure medium source.
27. (Previously presented) The clamping unit of claim 24, wherein the secondary piston has a first section sliding on an inner wall of the cylinder and demarcating the first pressure space on a side facing the primary piston, said secondary piston further including a second section extending in prolongation of the first section and having a diameter which is smaller than an inner diameter of the cylinder so that a further pressure space in the form of an annular gap is defined between the cylinder and the secondary piston, wherein the first pressure space is hydraulically blockable for an opening movement of an injection molding tool, and the further pressure space is decompressible, and wherein the auxiliary cylinder is so disposed and hydraulically actuatable that a greater surface of a piston of the auxiliary cylinder is acted upon by a pressure medium.

28. (Currently amended) A clamping unit for a two-platen injection molding machine, comprising:

- a fixed platen;
- a moving platen; and
- a hydraulic device for operating the moving platen, said hydraulic device including a cylinder having a first pressure space with a pressure medium, a primary piston which includes at least one piston rod and is constructed to float in the pressure medium in the first pressure space, and a secondary piston axially movable in the cylinder and sized to bound the first pressure space on one side thereof in any axial disposition thereof, said secondary piston having a recess in which the piston rod of the primary piston is movable, said primary and secondary pistons having opposing sides to define confronting contact surfaces which can be brought to impact contact one another when the fixed and moving platens are clamped, wherein the primary piston has a side which is distal to the secondary piston and has a second piston rod defined by a diameter which is smaller than a diameter of the first piston rod, said further piston rod projecting beyond the cylinder.